

Air Power

Quote of the Week

“Air power is like poker. A second-best hand is like none at all – it will cost you dough and win you nothing.”
– **George Kenney**

Vol. 50, No. 48

www.laughlin.af.mil

Dec. 13, 2002

News in Brief

Graduation:

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 03-03 graduates at 10 a.m. today in the Anderson Hall auditorium. See pilot photos on page 8.

Inside Scoop

Viewpoints:

The medical group commander shares a story about situational awareness.

Page 2

Sports:

A Laughlin instructor pilot played on the gold medal winning Air Force soccer team.

Page 12

Mission status:

(As of Dec. 6)

Days ahead or behind with mission capable rate

T-37	-1.8	83.2%
T-1	-0.9	82.0%
T-38	-3.52	75.1%
T-6	N/A	88.3%

**Next week's
Border Eagle is the
last issue until
Jan. 10. Submis-
sions for the Jan.
10 issue are due by
Dec. 20.**



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

Naughty or nice...

Jack Brannan, son of Maj. Steve and Barb Brannan, tells Santa Claus what he wants for Christmas Wednesday during the Children's Holiday Party at Club XL. The party was held after the base tree lighting ceremony.

DoD's clarifies homeland defense

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – In defending the homeland, DoD has clear and defined responsibilities often very much separate from those of civil organizations, a senior Pentagon official noted here Tuesday.

Accordingly, the Defense Department recognizes there are differences between the homeland security and homeland defense missions, Peter Verga, director of DoD's Homeland Defense Task Force, reminded a security conference audience here.

DoD supports national homeland security through its military homeland defense missions, Verga explained.

He said President Bush describes the homeland security mission as a concerted effort to prevent terrorist attacks within the United States, to reduce the nation's vulnerability to terrorism, and to minimize damage and to assist in recovery efforts after

See 'Homeland,' page 4

Air Force eliminates captain central boards

WASHINGTON – The Air Force will eliminate captain central selection boards for active-duty, Guard and Reserve officers beginning in 2003.

The move will not only streamline the process for eligible first lieutenants – placing the decision point for promotion closer to those who know the officers best – but will benefit the Air Force in other ways as well, according to Col. Dale Vande Hey, director of personnel programs for the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

“Aside from placing the promotion decision maker closer to the officer, it also saves the Air Force time, money and productivity by eliminating temporary duty trips for board members and preparation time at the centers,” Colonel Vande Hey said.

Promotion decisions will now be made at the major command or equivalent level, Colonel Vande Hey said. Previously, active-duty captain selection boards were held at the AFPC, while Reserve and Guard captain selection boards were held at the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver.

“With the possibility on each board to promote 100 percent of those eligible, and with an historical 99 percent active-duty selection rate, it only seemed logical to make this change,” Colonel Vande Hey said.

The 2002 National Defense Authorization Act permits the service secretaries to eliminate captain promotion boards when the promotion opportunity is

See 'Boards,' page 5

Commanders' Corner

Col. Charles Hardin

47th Medical Group commander

Dumb George teaches a lesson

Several years ago, as a young surgical intern in a downtown Dayton, Ohio, hospital, I received a trauma call that the emergency department was receiving two trauma patients from an elephant accident. This was an unusual call in Dayton.

When I arrived in the ED, there were two patients in the trauma room. The first was a clown who was covered with dirt and having considerable trouble breathing. The second was a pretty woman in a yellow sequined outfit who was distracted by her obviously broken arm.

The clown quickly got placed on a respirator, received two chest tubes, and settled down quite nicely with heavy sedation. The nice lady with the broken arm became much more pleasant with a splint and some pain medicine. She related the following story:

The circus was in town. The opening parade was led by an elephant named, "Dumb George." The parade entered the big top with the clown dancing around DG and the yellow sequined lady riding atop DG's neck. At this point, the clown tripped, and the elephant trainer immediately tried to stop the elephant by poking him with the pointed stick the trainer carried for just such occasions.

DG misinterpreted the poking and figured the time had come to do his headstand. All the clown knew was

that the crowd was roaring with laughter and applause, so he just stayed face down in the dirt doing his clown thing. You can guess the rest. DG accomplished his headstand in the middle of the clown's back, and the sequined lady fell off DG's neck halfway through the headstand and broke her arm.

The show went on minus the clown and the sequined lady who left in an ambulance. There are myriad lessons here, but the one I feel most pertinent is this: The clown almost got killed because he enjoyed the laughter and applause more than realizing what was actually happening around him. Just because people are laughing, grinning and clapping does not make everything all right. Each one of us has the responsibility to weigh a situation in relation to our ethics, be aware of the consequences of our actions and make a reasonable decision, regardless of what those around us may be saying.

The rest of the story? The pretty lady in the sequined outfit thought we had a very attentive ED staff, and her arm healed nicely. The clown came off the respirator three days later and did fine. Dumb George? Well, the following year when the circus came, it was obvious that his career had survived the "headstand incident," and he still led the parade.

Take care in planning, taking holiday trips

By Gen. Donald Cook

Air Education and Training Command commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – As we approach the holiday season, most of us are making plans to spend time with friends and families and to take advantage of some much deserved downtime.

On the other hand, I recognize right up front that many of our folks will be away from home and loved ones in defense of our freedoms and in support of our national interests as our nation remains engaged in the war against terrorism. To you, I express the heartfelt appreciation of your country, your Air Force and your command. You are and will be remembered during this holiday season as we look forward to your safe return.

To those who are traveling, my message is simple ... be careful. Driving during poor winter weather on crowded roadways may be the most dangerous thing you do all year. Specifically, the Air Force suffered the loss of 11 of our own during last year's holiday season. In our own AETC, a young airman basic died four days before Christmas while driving home ... a terrible tragedy.

Commanders and supervisors at every level have developed and implemented safety nets in the form of procedures to help ensure our folks are rested and well prepared for a safe journey home. The tools of sound risk management can help that process. Ultimately though, it's up to the individual to follow the rules, to obey the posted speed limits, and to

drive within their capabilities and in consideration of road conditions.

Since 40 percent of last year's 72 total Air Force and command vehicle fatalities involved alcohol, I remind each of you to obey the law and don't drink and drive. Lastly, drive defensively and wear your seat belts.

I expect commanders and supervisors to be involved in reviewing the travel plans and off-duty high risk activities of all assigned personnel, especially those between the ages of 18 and 25, since that group represented 70 percent of our Air Force off-duty fatalities last year.

Your country, your command and your unit need you back at work fit, healthy and ready for the challenges we are sure to face in 2003. I wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season.



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The Border Eagle is published every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 47th Flying Training Wing. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to: **timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil** or **yvonne.conde@laughlin.af.mil**.

Social Engineering: Hackers exploit human weakness

By Laurie G. Knepper
Joint STARS Test Force senior
computer systems manager

MELBOURNE, Fla., – Are you familiar with the term “social engineering”? If not, you probably don’t know the potential impact of social engineering on the Air Force and national security. And that means you could be an unwitting participant.

Social engineering means computer-security cracking techniques that rely on weakness in human nature rather than weaknesses in hardware, software or network design.

The goal of social engineering is to trick people into revealing pass-

words, network vulnerabilities or other information that will help the hacker get access to important data. Using social engineering, even someone with lousy computer skills can find his or her way into a supposedly secure computer system and access, modify or destroy the data on it.

How are your social engineering defenses?

■Do you lock your work station before leaving your desk, or do you leave it up to a screensaver to kick in a little while later?

■Would you decline to give your password to someone who said, over the phone or in an e-mail, that he or she was debugging a problem with

your account, and then contact your computer security representatives immediately, or would you comply with the password request?

■Do you challenge strangers in the hall who don’t display a proper badge, or do you assume because they are in nice suits that they are probably too important to be questioned?

■Would you stop a clean-cut uniformed delivery person carrying packages who flashes a smile and asks where the mailroom is as he attempts to tailgate into a secure building with you, or would you politely hold the door open for him and point him toward the mailroom?

■Do you shred old phone lists, or do you simply dump them in the trash or recycle bin?

■Would you decline to participate in a phone survey that asks a bunch of questions about your organization’s computer systems, or would you participate to get the “free gift”?

■Do you leave work discussions at work, or do you discuss Air Force business over meals at local restaurants?

In case you have any doubt, the first action in each of these examples reflects proper security practices, while the second action reflects poor security or outright security violations.



Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training
Wing commander

Actionline
Call 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven’t been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It’s also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every at-

tempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of

Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.

Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Equal Employment Opportunity	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Information line	298-5201
Legal	298-5172
Military Equal Opportunity	298-5400
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810

DRMO

Comment: I was wondering about the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office sales and why we can’t have a DRMO sale on this installation? From what I understand everything goes to Kelly Air Force base or Fort Sam Houston and is sold there. Well, if it’s needed in this community, then it should stay in the community. I also understand a lot of this stuff is being given to the Bethel Center and to the Goodwill and what not. If there are airmen or even people in base housing who would like to have these items, then I think it should be opened up to them. I’ve also discussed this with peers.

Answer: Appreciate your desire to make sure our community members are the ones we think of first when we have the means to provide goods and services. Unfortunately in this instance, the regulations don’t give us that flexibility.

DRMO property sales fall under Department of Defense, not the Air Force. DRMO is the only authorized disposal authority for the Armed Forces. All property destined for disposal must be processed from the responsible service activity, in this case Laughlin, to DRMO.

In Oct 2000, DOD completed a regional realignment and Laughlin AFB lost its on-site DRMO yard. San Antonio is now the region that supports Laughlin.

This means that all property

destined for DRMO must be sent to San Antonio where they make the decision on how excess property items will be processed and determine whether any other units in the DOD have requirements for the items.

There is a prioritized list of authorized activities that can withdraw property from DRMO. They have first screening rights and first rights to withdraw. The list includes almost all DOD, federal and state agencies. In some cases there are also contractors that are under contract to DRMO in support of worldwide contingencies (floods, earthquakes, famine, etc.). If no one from the list wants the property, DRMO San Antonio has the authority to hold local sales or declare the prop-

erty excess to Government needs.

Periodically, DRMO San Antonio holds public auctions and sales where individuals can purchase items directly. Scheduled times and places are announced by DRMO. When property is declared totally excess to Government needs and has no resale value, DRMO may allow the property to be donated to charitable activities such as the Bethel Center.

To obtain additional information about this process or information on sales, you can contact Defense Retuliztion and Marketing Office San Antonio at (210) 925-3556.

‘Homeland,’ from page 1

terrorist attacks.

However, Verga noted that fiscal 2004 Defense Planning Guidance defines homeland defense as the military protection of U.S. territory, the domestic population and critical defense infrastructure against external threats and aggression.

The DPG also calls for DoD to routinely study state activities to deter potential aggressors and to prepare U.S. military forces for action, if needed.

“That’s a subtle, but a very, very distinct difference,” Verga pointed out, noting that the terms homeland security and homeland

defense “are often – very incorrectly – used interchangeably.”

There are three circumstances where DoD would be involved in homeland security activities within the United States, he noted. They are:

■ Traditional military missions performed inside the United States, called “extraordinary circumstances.” An example would be the current combat air patrols, during which military aircraft might be ordered to shoot down a terrorist-hijacked airliner that’s en route to a target.

■ Emergency circumstances, where the military aids civil authorities or other federal agencies with logistical and other support in, for instance, disaster relief missions after hurricanes, tornadoes and floods.

■ Temporary circumstances, such as DoD support to the Olympics.

DoD’s foremost mission, Verga pointed out, is to defend the United States and the American population. Any department activities requested in support of homeland defense efforts should be centrally coordinated, he noted, to promote efficiency and prevent confusion.

The mechanisms to coordinate such DoD support are either in place or soon will be, Verga noted, citing the March 2003 start up of the Department of Homeland Security, and the authorization of a new assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense.

He also pointed to the Oct. 1 establishment of U.S. Northern Command, the new unified command

with responsibility for homeland defense.

Army Lt. Gen. Joseph Kellogg, director of command, control, communications and computer systems for the Joint Staff, sat on the discussion panel with Verga. He noted Northern Command is the first regional combatant command in the United States.

Northern Command’s job, he noted, is to coordinate with other elements and agencies to produce “a seamless battlefield.”

“We view the United States of America as a battlefield. If you look at what happened back on the 11th of September a year ago,... those attacks occurred... within the United States,” Kellogg emphasized.

Christmas programs

The chapel is having a children’s program, Operation Baby King, followed by a musical program, Emmanuel – God is with us, during the 11 a.m. protestant service Sunday. A discounted brunch is available at Club XL, afterwords for those with a ticket from the chapel.

A Christmas pageant will be performed by the children of the Catholic parish at 6 p.m. Sunday at the chapel with a potluck dinner in Fellowship Hall afterwards.

ORI outbrief

There will be an ORI outbrief at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Anderson Hall auditorium. Due to limited seating, tickets will be issued through the group commanders.

Post ORI celebration

A post-ORI appreciation celebration is set for 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at Club XL. Everyone is invited.

Awards luncheon

The 47th Flying Training Wing fourth quarter awards luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Club XL.

All nominees should R.S.V.P. by calling 298-4450 or 298-4398. Commanders and distinguished visitors should R.S.V.P. by calling 298-4709 or 298-4710. The last day to R.S.V.P. is today. All others wishing to attend should contact their first sergeants. No walk-ins will be allowed.

For more information, call Master Sgt. James Martin at 298-5406.

Newslines

Promotion ceremony

An enlisted promotion ceremony is set for one hour earlier than normal Dec. 20 at Club Amistad. The new time is 3 p.m. Promotees and escorts will need to show up at 2 p.m. for practice. For more information, call 298-5068.

Gate closure

The main gate will be closed from 6 a.m. Dec. 23 until midnight Dec. 25 for construction. The west gate will be open during these times. For more information, call 298-5886 or 298-5100.

Thrift Savings Plan

Civilian and military employees can still sign up or change Thrift Savings Plan accounts during the current open season until Dec. 31. Changes made after Dec. 1 will become effective the beginning of the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military. For specific information, log on to www.tsp.gov for civilians and www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm for military.

VI support

Visual Information needs a minimum of 48 hour notice for any support after normal duty hours, weekends or holidays.

For more information, call 298-5177.

Tobacco cessation

The next tobacco cessation course starts Jan. 7 at the Wellness Center conference room. Class will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. For more information or to sign up, call 298-6463 or 298-6464.

Going away dinner

47th Flying Training Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant Stephen Enyeart’s, going away dinner is set for 6:30 p.m. Jan. 8 at Club XL. All personnel can sign up through unit first sergeants. Commanders and DVs should RSVP to protocol at 298-4709 or 298-04710. The last day to sign up or RSVP is Jan. 3. For more information, call 298-5456.

Transition counseling

Civil service employees considering leaving federal employment or changing careers can receive career counseling from the Family Support Center. The counseling assists in resumes, interviews and transition plans. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 298-5620.

Safety video

A Laughlin ground safety video will be shown on the commander’s access channel, cable channel 34, at 10 a.m. today, Tuesday and Thursday and at 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Dec. 20. The video addresses local safety concerns and area hazards.

‘Boards,’ from page 1

100 percent.

Despite the absence of a central review, individuals will still need to be “fully qualified” to be promoted. This means everyone who is determined to be qualified can be promoted. By comparison, promotion to the ranks of major through colonel are based on the “best qualified” criterion, meaning promotion board members rank-order qualified candidates by merit and only a pre-determined percentage of the total eligible are promoted.

First lieutenants meeting the time-in-grade and time-in-service requirements will be initially recommended as either “promote” or “do not promote” candidates. Members who receive a “do not promote” recommendation will be provided an opportunity to rebut that recommendation.

Recommendation to captain for active-duty officers will take place one year preceding the quarter in which an individual is eligible to pin on, which is based on the two-year date of rank anniversary. Promotion recommendation lists are then compiled and certified quarterly at the major command level and forwarded to the AFPC. Center officials then forward the list of recommended officers through the secretary of the Air Force for presidential approval.



Cookie Caper: Huge success

Compiled by staff reports

Over 500 dozen cookies were distributed by Laughlin’s annual Cookie Caper Dec. 6.

Enlisted and officer dorm residents, families of deployed personnel and international pilot training students finished the duty day with homemade cookies at their doors.

According to Rose-Marie Smith, this year’s

project officer, it took over 200 volunteers to bake, collect, wrap, and distribute the festively decorated packages.

“The effort demonstrated a wonderful outpouring of love for our single military population,” she said. “We could not have done this without the superb support of many base agencies and volunteers. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who made this year’s cookie caper such a success.”

Quarantine not needed for pets entering UK

Compiled by staff reports

Beginning Wednesday, cats and dogs traveling from the United States will be allowed to enter the United Kingdom under the Pet Travel Scheme.

Animals traveling under PETS must meet several criteria. They must be fitted with a microchip, be vaccinated against rabies, be treated against tapeworms and ticks, issued an official PETS certificate, and be blood tested six months prior to travel, to ensure protective levels of rabies antibodies.

Prior to PETS, cats and dogs were quarantined in the UK for a period of six months at the owner’s expense. Cats and dogs must enter the UK by air on an approved route. Service members traveling to the UK may find more information and assistance on PETS at their nearest Veterinary Treatment Facility.

PETS is administered by the UK Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Department of Defense Veterinary Services Food Analysis and Diagnostic Laboratory in San Antonio, TX, is accredited by DEFRA to provide the appropriate blood testing, fluorescent antibody viral neutralization, for rabies antibodies at owner’s expense.
www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/quarantine.

This change in policy does not affect the ban on dangerous dogs entering the UK. An updated list of breeds prohibited from entering the UK can be found at:
www.homeoffice.gov.uk.

Please contact the Laughlin Air Force Base Veterinary Treatment Facility for more information at 298-5500.

Interested in the Air Force?
Call Del Rio’s Air Force recruiter at 774-0911.

(Clip and save)

Holiday safety tips

(Clip and save)

Happy Holidays Team XL. Before everyone de- parts for the holidays, safety asks every one to think through their holiday plans, apply risk manage- ment to all activities, look out for each other and re- turn to work safe and sound. Regardless of what you do, each member is re- minded to exercise disci- pline, follow the rules and apply risk management ap- propriately. Remember that returning home safe and sound is priority one. Each member of Team XL has a vital part in Laughlin’s mission. Here are some risk management tips to help you enjoy your holiday season.

Toys and Gifts

■ Be careful when you choose toys for infants or small children. Be sure anything you give them is not too big to get caught in the throat, nose or ears.

■ Avoid toys with small parts that can be pulled or broken off.

Food and Cooking

■ The holidays often mean preparing large meals for family and friends. Wash hands, utensils, sink and anything else that has come in contact with raw poultry. ■ Refrigerate or freeze left- overs in covered shallow containers (less than two inches deep) within two hours after cooking. Date the leftovers for future use.

Alcohol, Parties and Driving

■ Being a smart party host or guest should include be-

ing sensible about alco- holic drinks. More than half of all traffic fatalities are alcohol related.

■ If you’re on medica- tions, don’t drink. The combined side affects could be deadly.

■ Use designated drivers to drive other guests home after a holiday party.

■ If you plan on driving this holiday season; take time to plan your trip thoroughly, don’t take un- necessary risks, plan for weather and drive rested.

Stress

■ The holiday season is one of the most stressful times of the year. You can’t avoid stress com- pletely, but you can give yourself some relief.

■ Allow enough time to shop rather than hurry through stores and park- ing lots. Only plan to do a reasonable number of er- rands.

Christmas Tree Tips

For many people, decorating the Christmas tree is a favorite part of the holiday. The National Safety Council offers some safety tips to make sure a mishap doesn’t spoil your holiday season.

A real tree can add to the spirit of Christmas by fill- ing your home with beauty and the scent of pine. But a real tree can also pose a fire hazard. Each year, more than 400 residential fires are caused by Christmas trees and tragically nearly 40 deaths and 100 injuries result from those fires.

■ Try to select a fresh

tree by looking for one that is green. The needles should bend and not break and should be hard to pull off the branches. Also, look for a trunk sticky with sap.

■ Cut off about two inches of the trunk and put the tree in a sturdy, water-holding stand. Keep the stand filled with water so the tree does not dry out quickly.

■ Also keep your tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources, which could cause a fire. Make sure the tree does not block foot traffic or door- ways.

Tree lights

■ Only use indoor lights indoors and vise versa. Look for the UL label. Check lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires or loose connec- tions. Replace any dam- aged light sets.

■ Also, use no more than three light sets on any one- extension cord. Extension cords should be placed against the wall to avoid tripping hazards, but do not run cords under rugs.

■ Turn off all lights on trees and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

Tree ornaments

■ Use only tinsel or icicles made of non-lead, non- flammable material. Lead decorations can be hazard- ous to children and pets if swallowed.

■ Some tree decorations, like popcorn chains and candy canes, are edible. But young children may think that other tree ornaments are edible.

(Clip and save)

(Clip and save)

Mission complete: SUPT Class 03-03 graduates today



1st Lt. William Kopp
F-15A, Portland IAP, Ore.
Class leader



2nd Lt. Dennis Nita
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.
Assistant class leader



1st Lt. Bartley Ward
A-10, Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. John Baker
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Judd Baker
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Jermaine Boyd
KC-135, Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Michael Daigh
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Scott Doyer
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Brett Duffy
KC-135, Pennsylvania ANGB



2nd Lt. Carson Hardesty
KC-135, Wisconsin ANGB



2nd Lt. Nicklas Hebekeuser
KC-135, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.



2nd Lt. John Hensz
F-15, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Kory Kiefer
KC-135, Mildenhall AB, England



2nd Lt. Daniel Knerl
T-6, Moody AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Craig Lauderdale Jr.
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Kahai Logan
C-130, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



2nd Lt. Elliot Nelson
F-15, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Jorge Pargas
RC-135, Offutt AFB, Neb.



2nd Lt. David Snodgrass
T-6, Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Stephanie Soltis
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Iven Vian
B-1, Dyess AFB, Texas



2nd Lt. Justin Watson
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Casey Woods
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Nicholas Zervos
KC-135, Kadena AB, Japan

Interested in the Air Force?
Call Del Rio’s Air Force recruiter at 774-0911.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Steve Faulisi

What’s up, doc

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (AFPN) – Capt. (Dr.) James Garman performs a checkup on an Afghan boy during a Medical Civil Assistance Program visit to the village of Deh Baha Ali on Dec. 3. American military doctors are providing free medical and dental care to some of the local villages in Afghanistan. Garman is currently deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

Chapel Schedule

- Catholic**
- Saturday* ● 5 p.m., Mass
 - Sunday* ● 9:30 a.m., Mass
 - Thursday* ● 6 p.m., Choir
 - Reconciliation* ● By appointment
 - Religious Education* ● 11 a.m. Sunday
- Jewish** ● Call Max Stool at 775-4519
- Muslim** ● Call Mostafa Salama at 768-9200
- Nondenominational**
- Sunday* ● 6:30 p.m. Officer Christian Fellowship, call 298-2238
 - Friday* ● 7 p.m., Unity in Community Fellowship (activities for children)
 - Monthly* ● Women’s fellowship (call 298-1351 for details)
- Protestant**
- Saturday* ● 9 a.m., Singles Bible study at the Chaparral Dining facility
 - Sunday* ● 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sunday school
 - 11 a.m., General worship (blend of contemporary and traditional worship)
 - Wednesday* ● 10 a.m., Women’s Bible study
 - 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

Extreme cold hitting deployed airmen

Col. Airman Nicole Spence
486th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM – The weather is extreme at Ganci Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, just 120 miles east of the Chinese border. It is early December and snow and ice consume the landscape, and people face four-degree temperatures outside. For those airmen without the gear to keep warm, it is time to head to supply.

“We’re trying to keep people warm. That is our biggest driving factor for now,” said Tech. Sgt. James Jackson, 376th Expeditionary

Logistics Readiness Squadron individual equipment issue unit noncommissioned officer in charge here.

With help from servicemembers like Sergeat Jackson, the 376th ELRS issues individual equipment to deployed personnel. This includes cold weather gear for U.S. and coalition forces.

The base depends on the staff to manage 13 equipment accounts, handle millions of dollars of equipment and keep people protected from the blistering cold.

Black knit caps, Gortex liners and boots are the most sought after

items right now, said Sergeant Jackson, deployed from Ramstein.

“But things can get difficult because not everyone gets what they want for whatever reason,” he said. “Sometimes they aren’t authorized the item, and other times we just don’t have it in stock.”

Most of the people who leave the unit empty handed take it well, said Staff Sgt. L. Calvin, a supply technician from Ramstein.

“We help that by setting standards and (applying) them (uniformly) to everyone. That keeps the confusion level down,” said Sergeant Calvin.

Being deployed to such an inhospitable environment can come as a shock to some people, but most agree the experience is worthwhile.

“This is my first real deployment, and I’ve been here (since Dec. 3),” said Staff Sgt. Bradley Youngquist, another supply technician. “I wasn’t really expecting this much cold, but it’s worthwhile because I’m getting to see how everyone interacts at a smaller scale than Ramstein.

“Even with the hardships of this deployment and the severe weather, this is going to be great, a really good time,” he said.

The *XLer*

Hometown: Del Rio
Family: Wife, Emma; daughter, Brandi
Time at Laughlin: 13 years, eight months
Time in service: 13 years, eight months
Greatest accomplishments: Being a father
Hobbies: Working out, weight lifting
Bad habits: Not smiling
Favorite musician or band: Metallica
Favorite movie: Black Hawk Down
If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why? My father, he provided me with a good work ethic.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

Robert Sandoval
47th Maintenance Directorate T-1 flight expediter

Team XL captain helps AF soccer team win the gold

By Airman 1st Class
Yvonne Conde
staff writer

A Laughlin Team XL member helped Air Force win the 2002 Armed Services Men's Soccer gold medal in a tournament at Dover Air Force base, Del.

Capt. Matt Anderson, 85th Flying Training Squadron T-37 instructor pilot and safety officer was among 18 players selected for the 2002 Air Force soccer team.

Tryouts were held Oct. 15 through Oct. 31, giving the teams only two weeks to train for the early November tournament.

From hundreds of applicants, the Air Force Sports Program selected 30 individuals from Air Force active duty, Reserves, and Guard. "The final 18 players were chosen on their skill, fitness level, and the positional needs of the team," said Captain Anderson.

The 27-year-old center midfielder has been playing soccer since he was 5 years old. The son of an Air Force chaplain gained most of his experience playing on Air Force youth soccer teams worldwide. He also played soccer for the Air Force Academy.

Because the selections for the Air Force Team are very competitive, most of the players selected for the team have previous Division I college soccer experience, said Captain Anderson. "Therefore, the level of play at the championship mirrors that of a Division I college game where the players demonstrate good tactical and technical knowledge of the game,

which comes from experience."

Captain Anderson also took on the opposition as the team captain. Each team played the other services twice. After six games, Air Force team was undefeated with the best record.

Four wins, no losses and two ties earned the gold. Many of the members of this year's team played together on previous Air Force teams. "This gave our team a distinct advantage over the other services because there are only a few allotted weeks to prepare for the championship," he said. "Therefore, many of our players came into camp already knowing the strengths and weaknesses of each individual player."

At the conclusion of the championship, the 18 best players in the tournament were selected for the Armed Services team. In January, they will go on to represent the United States in a competition against military teams from Barbados and Canada.

"I was especially honored to be selected for this team; however, my wife and I already had holiday vacation plans, so I will be unable to attend," said the captain.

In September 2003, the winning team from these three countries will represent North America in a worldwide competition to be held in Catania, Sicily, for the World Military Games.

"These games are exciting because the World Military Games are second only to the Olympics as the largest amateur sporting event in the world," he said.



Courtesy photo

Capt. Matthew Anderson, 85th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot and safety officer prepares to pass the ball in a game against the marines Nov. 5. Air Force defeated the Marines 3-0.

Captain Anderson said he enjoys the competition involved with soccer. "I receive good exercise while relieving stress," he said. "The best part about playing on the

Air Force team is the friendships you make with other players. I look forward to the opportunity to play on the team again in the year 2003!"

Sportslines

Aerobics programs

Step, Spin, Cardio Kickboxing and Power Yoga classes are available at the XL Fitness Center for all Laughlin people to attend.

The classes are: Monday – Friday has classes at 9 a.m.; Monday – Thursday includes noon and 5:30 p.m. classes; and Monday and Wednesday Power Yoga is scheduled at 6:30 p.m.

All classes are free and are conducted by certified instructors. For more information, call the fitness center at 298-5251.

Santa Claus Biathlon

The Santa Claus Biathlon is set for 8 a.m. Dec. 21. There will be a five-kilometer run and an eight-mile bike ride. Sign-up at the XL Fitness Center by Thursday. For more information, call 298-5251.

Air Force teams

All active-duty members interested in competing for a spot on the Air Force cross country team must submit Air Force Form 303 by Dec. 30. Members interested in wrestling must submit the form by Jan. 17. Members interested in bowling must submit the form by Jan. 20.

Forms will be available at the XL Fitness Center. For more information, call the fitness center at 298-5251.